04
EIGHTH

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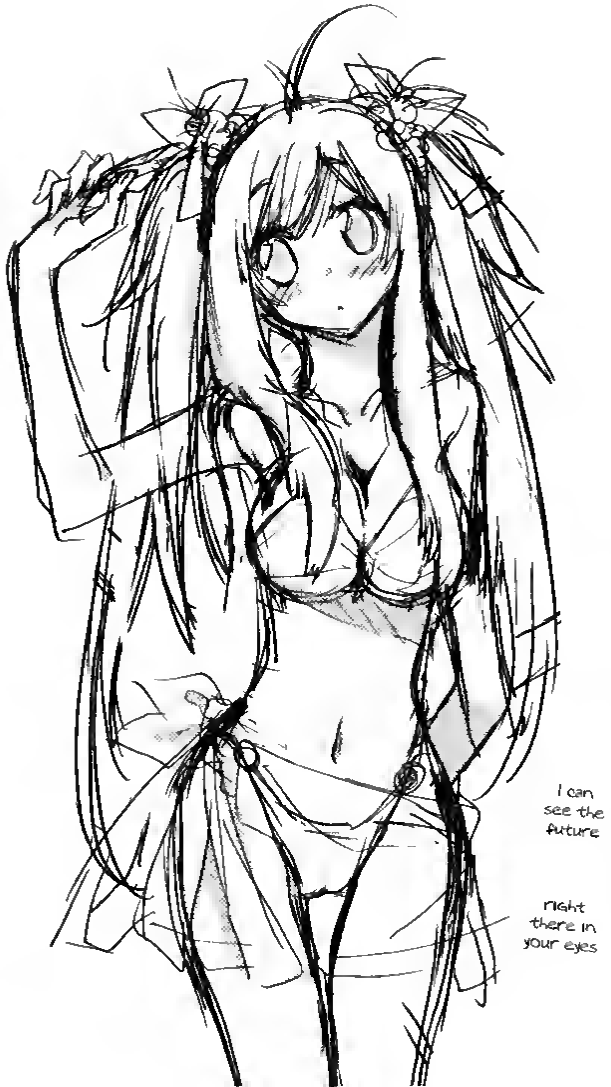
EIGHTH

エイス

Operation.30


I can
see the
future
right
there in
your eyes

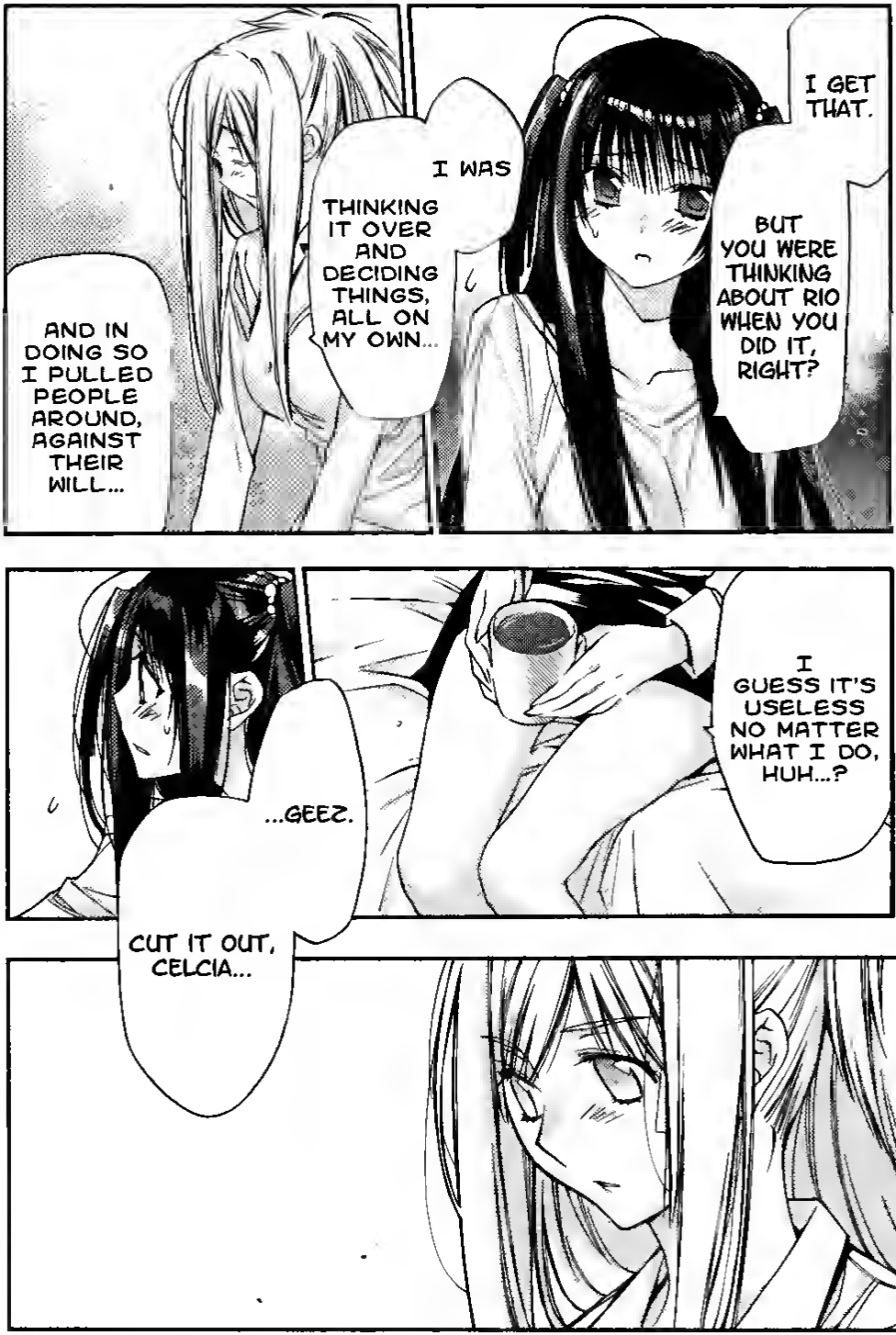
.....
RECALLING MY TALK WITH THE CHIEF...
HE WANTS TO HAVE RIO MEET WITH CELCIA?!

...How could you!
You're telling me to talk to Celcia about Rio's condition now?
Okay, then how long will you keep it from her?
"Telling me that at a painful time like this... Naoya is so inconsiderate."
What?
You don't want to be the bad guy?
I didn't say that.
It's just that Celcia's in an unfortunate situation—
That's exactly what I'm talking about.
Quit being over-protective. You can't decide everything for her.

RIGHT NOW, ONE OR TWO MORE THINGS WON'T MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE FOR HER HOLINESS!
ER...
THE ONE WHO'S IN THE MOST PAIN IS RIO-SENSEI, WHO'S SICK. SO WHAT IF "HER HOLINESS" IS DEPRESSED?!
YOU THINK IF EVERYONE THINKS ABOUT EVERYONE ELSE
THAT IT WILL DEFINITELY BE REWARDING?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU TALK WITH THAT PRESUPPOSITION THAT YOU'RE AT A STALEMATE.
ALL YOU DO IS GET CHECKMATED.

LOOK, JUST COME ALONG.
THIS WILL BE AMUSING.
THERE IS ANOTHER "HOLY WOMAN".

...
CELCIA.
ARE YOU OKAY?
.....
...I THINK THAT...
...IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF I'D NEVER SAID I WANTED TO GO TO THE VATICAN...


I GET THAT.
BUT YOU WERE THINKING ABOUT RIO WHEN YOU DID IT, RIGHT?
I WAS THINKING IT OVER AND DECIDING THINGS, ALL ON MY OWN...
AND IN DOING SO I PULLED PEOPLE AROUND, AGAINST THEIR WILL...
I GUESS IT'S USELESS NO MATTER WHAT I DO, HUH...?
...GEEZ.
CUT IT OUT, CELCIA...

...WHERE IS RIO-SAN?
!
...AH.
...HIKARU-SAN, WHERE IS RIO-SAN?

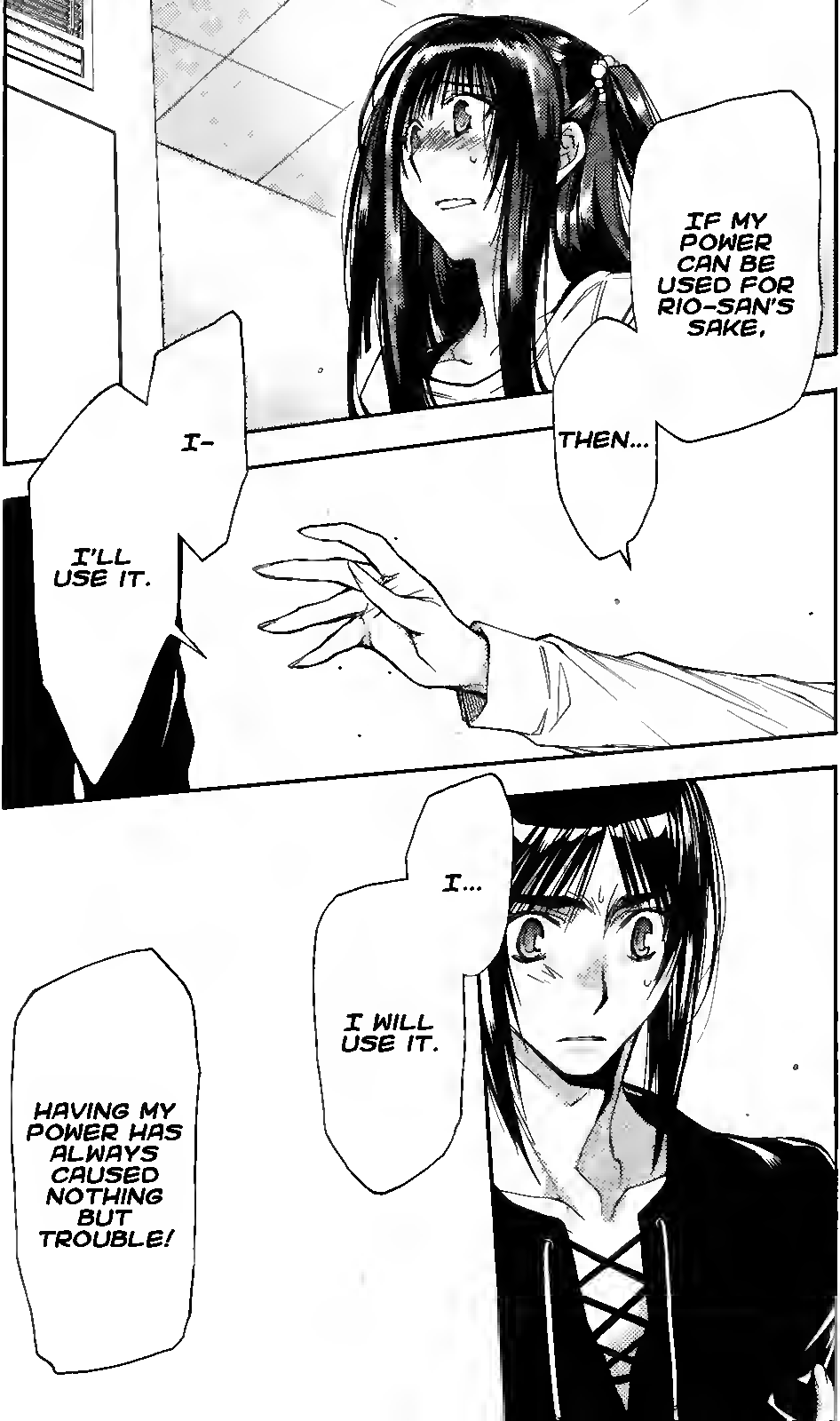
EH...
ERM...
THE RE-SEARCH LAB?
BUT...
...THEN WHY...
WHY WERE NAOYA AND HIKARU-SAN AT THE VATICAN?
TH-
THAT'S ...
NAOYA WAS SUPPOSED TO BE GUARDING RIO-SAN AT HER SIDE,
SO WHY?!

...A-
ANOTHER GUARD FROM EIGHTH IS WITH HER...
...HIKARU-SAN, EVEN YOU WOULD LIE TO ME—
HEY, CELCIA!
コ..
コ..
!
SFX: NOK NOK

NO, STAY OUT.
...MAY I COME IN?
.....
...NAOYA.
RIO IS...
...SICK.
SHE HAS LEUKEMIA AND A GENETIC DEFICIENCY—

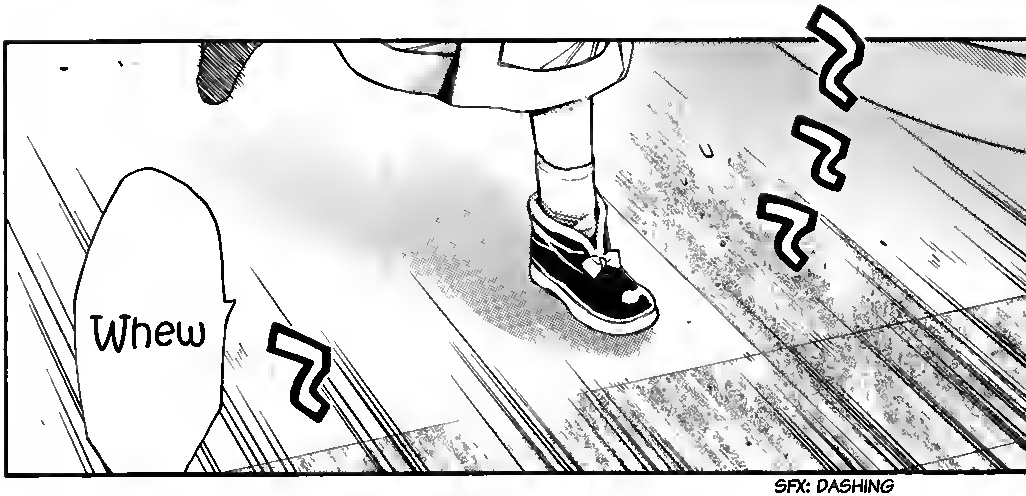
NAOYA?!
I WENT TO THE VATICAN TO GET YOU TO COME AND HELP SAVE RIO.
SO YOU COULD USE YOUR POWER
TO PROVIDE A TREATMENT AND SAVE HER LIFE, SPARING YOU FROM ANOTHER PAINFUL EXPERIENCE.
AND THAT
IS WHY I WAS THERE.
NAOYA!

UM...
RIO-SAN...
NAOYA,
WHERE IS RIO-SAN?
IS SHE ALRIGHT?!
.....
IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO RIO-SAN, I WOULD BE...
WORTH-LESS...
HOPE-LESS...


IF MY POWER CAN BE USED FOR RIO-SAN'S SAKE,
THEN...
I-
I'LL USE IT.
I...
I WILL USE IT.
HAVING MY POWER HAS ALWAYS CAUSED NOTHING BUT TROUBLE!

...IF I CAN USE IT FOR RIO-SAN...
IF THAT WERE TO HAPPEN ...
THEN THIS UN-WANTED ABILITY—
IF I COULD AT LEAST ACCOMPLISH THAT...
AT LEAST HELP HER...
...CHIEF SAID WE ARE NOT TO USE YOUR POWER.

LET'S...
GO SEE RIO.
CRY-



SFX: DASHING

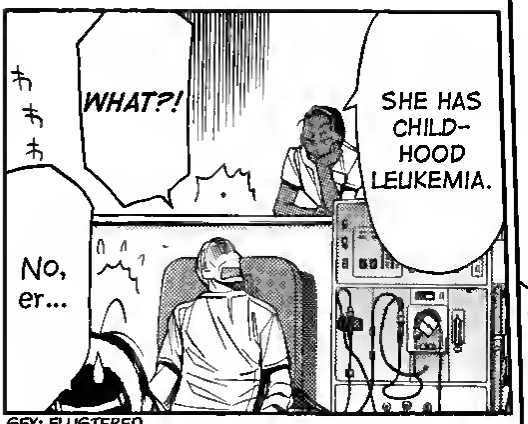
SFX: STARTLED AGAIN

SFX: STARTLED

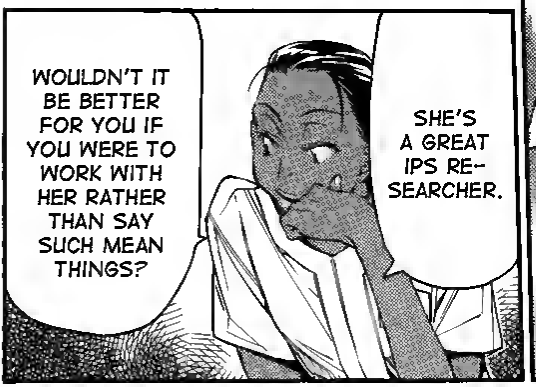
SFX: TREMBLING...

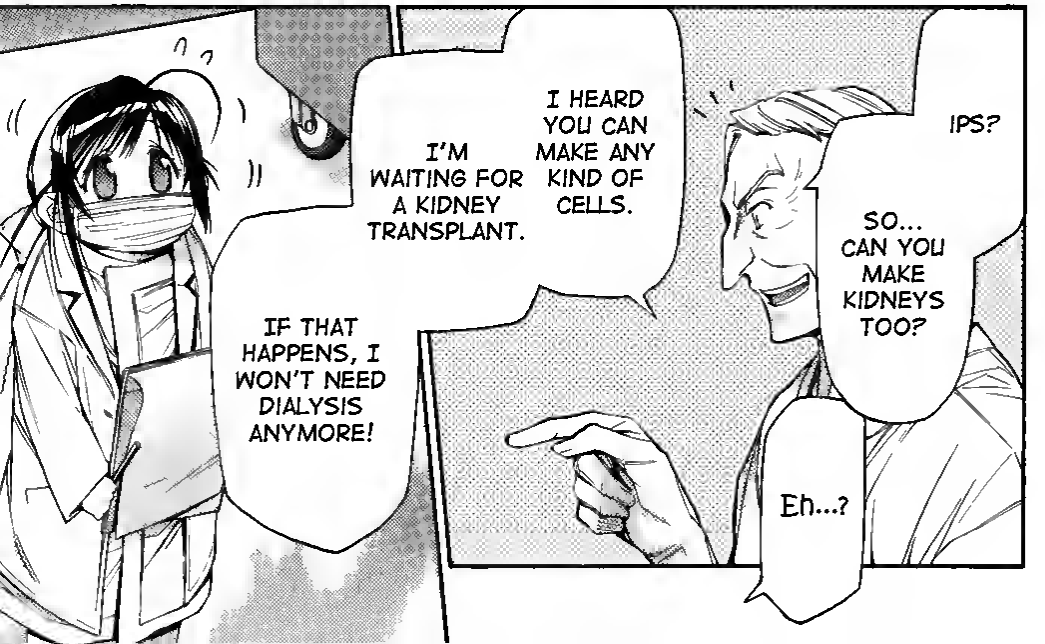
THE DIALYSIS CENTER SAID RIO-CHAN WOULD BE COMING TODAY.
JUST 10 MINUTES.
Uh...
Oh.
PICK ONE PLACE.
Or- Orthopedics and Neurology.
Um...
Ah.
Aye!
Aye.
Does it hurt, sir?

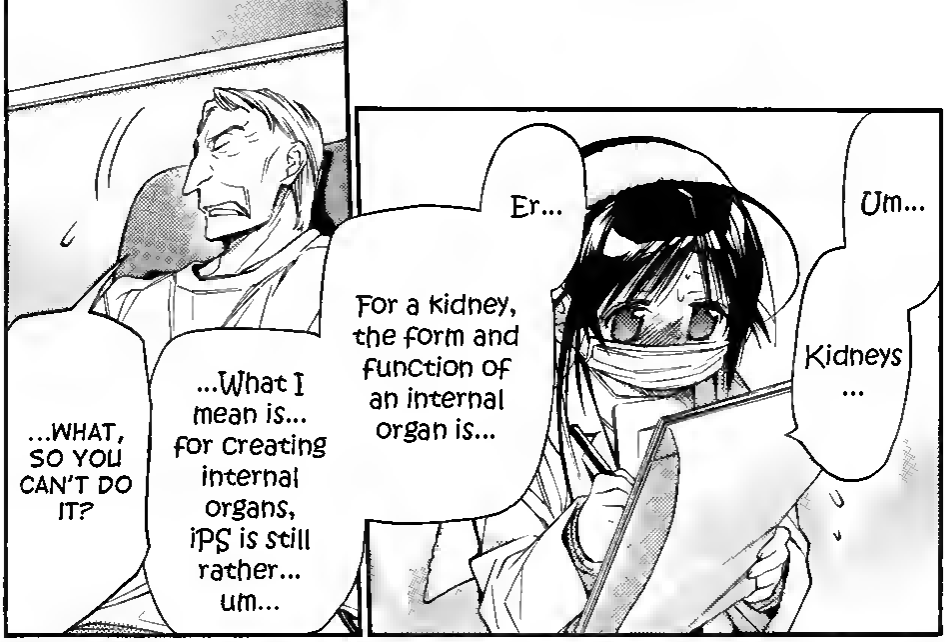
Oh!
Oh.
IT'S SO GREAT HAVING RIO-CHAN HERE.
Ah.
Thank you very much.
Aye.
That's true.
Though do have a TV here.
SPENDING 4 HOURS HERE IN DIALYSIS.
YOU SURE HAVE TIME TO SPARE,
Uh...
No, uh... erm...
HEY!
HOW DARE YOU SAY THAT TO HER!
Ah.
Umm...
ビクッ
ジロッ
HURRY UP AND HEAL ME.
THEY TELL ME YOU'RE A GREAT DOCTOR, YOUNG LADY.
SFX: STARTLED
SFX: GLARE
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU COULD UNDERSTAND.
I understand how you feel...
Dialysis takes time and money.



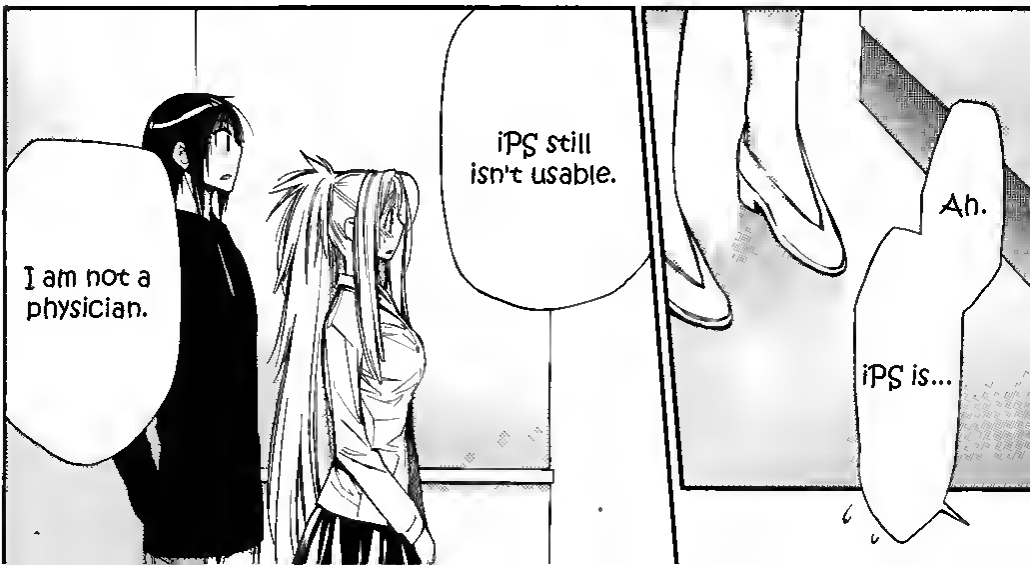
SFX: FLUSTERED



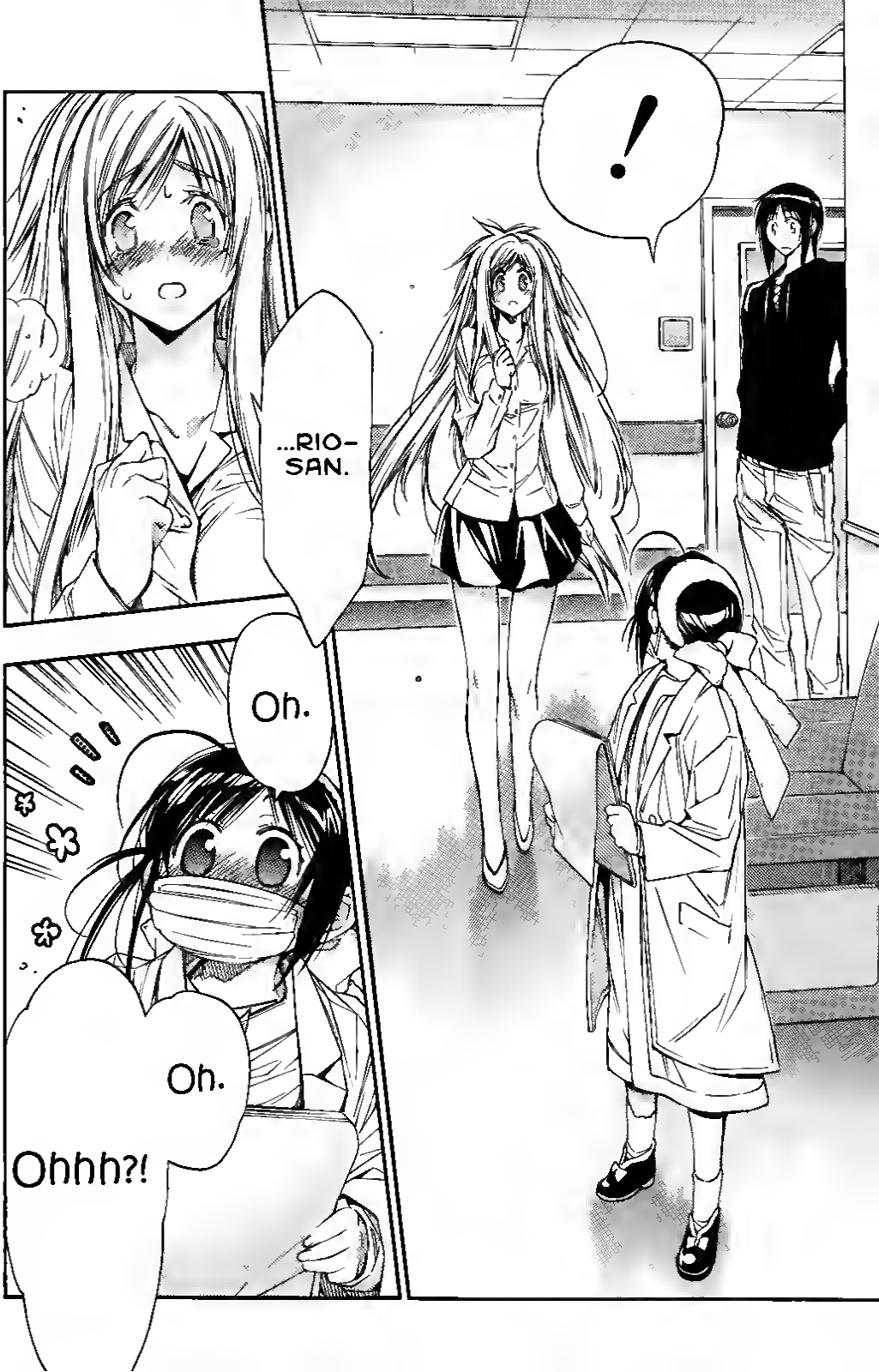

I'M WAITING FOR A KIDNEY TRANSPLANT.
I HEARD YOU CAN MAKE ANY KIND OF CELLS.
IPS?
SO... CAN YOU MAKE KIDNEYS TOO?
IF THAT HAPPENS, I WON'T NEED DIALYSIS ANYMORE!
Eh...?


Um...
Kidneys ...
Er...
For a kidney, the form and function of an internal organ is...
...What I mean is... for creating internal organs, iPS is still rather... um...
...WHAT, SO YOU CAN'T DO IT?

GEEZ... RIO-CHAN, PAY HIM NO MIND.
THERE REALLY ARE SELF-CENTERED PEOPLE, HUH...?
No.
I'm fine. I think you are absolutely right.

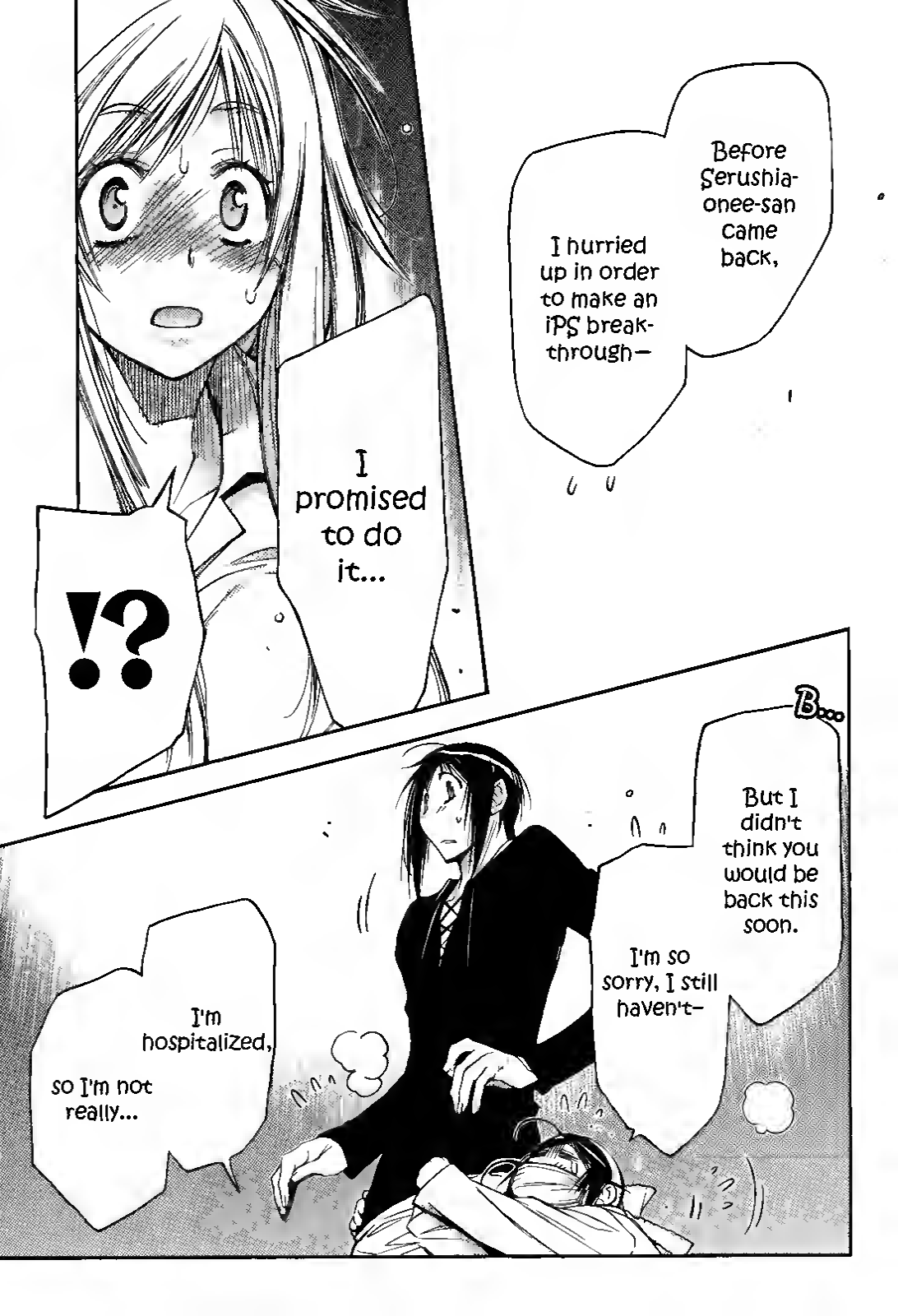

Ah.
iPS is...
iPS still isn't usable.
I am not a physician.

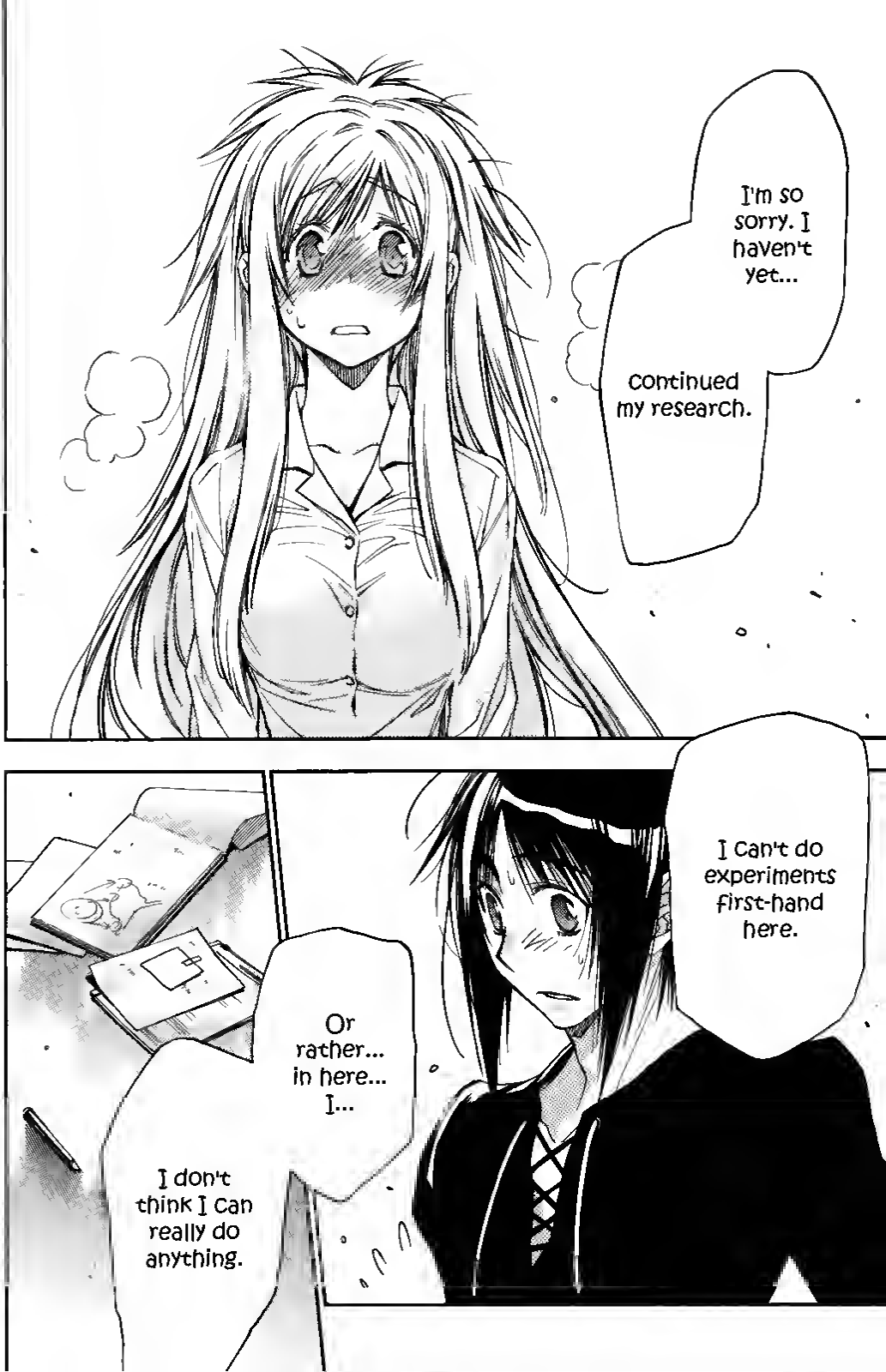
But even so, I will do what I can.
So please tell me more.
SFX: SMILE
S-Sorry if I said too much.
Er...
I-I am not good at conversation...
But...
I'll work even harder at researching, uhm...
RIO-SAN!


!
...RIO-SAN.
Oh.
Oh.
Ohhh?!

RIO-SAN...!
If it isn't Serushia-onee-san!!
!?
WOAAAAH-!!!
SFX: SHOCKED
RIO-SAN?!
RIO-SAN, WAIT!
EH?!
EH?!
AWA WA WA WA WA
SFX: DASHING AROUND CAUSING LOTS OF NOISE

R-
RIO-SAN, WAIT A M—
WHAT'S WRONG, RIO?
SFX: YIII—
SFX: FLAP FLAP
WHOAA!
AWA WA WA
ONII-SAN...
SFX: DUCKING BEHIND
RIO-SAN,
WHAT'S WRONG?
Uh- Uhm...
I... Well...
WH-
WHY ...?!
SFX: PANT PANT


Before Serushia-onee-san came back,
I hurried up in order to make an iPS break-through—
I promised to do it...
!?
But I didn't think you would be back this soon.
I'm so sorry, I still haven't—
I'm hospitalized, so I'm not really...


I'm so sorry. I haven't yet...
continued my research.
I can't do experiments first-hand here.
Or rather... in here... I...
I don't think I can really do anything.

Talking about all kinds of practical situations
in which to use iPS... What I mean is, in the field.
And I, along with iPS, am stuck in the research lab.
RIO-SAN, YOU'RE SICK, AREN'T YOU?!
...No, well...
...Aye... but...
Even so, I can still
act on my own.

There are times when scientific treatments feel bad too.
Um...
Right now I'm energetic, so I'm okay.
SFX: SMILE

.....

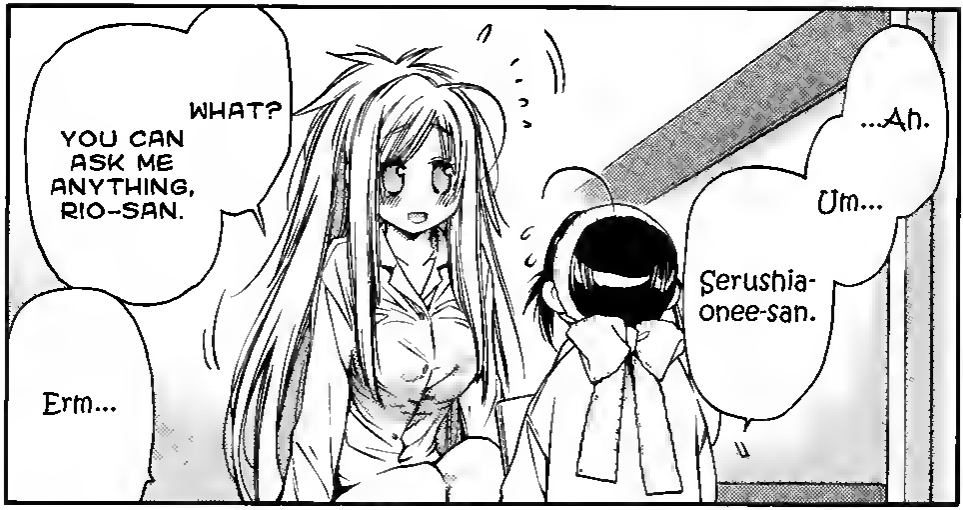
...Rio.
You aren't lying to the physician in charge?
I-
I'm not
lying.
SFX: STARTLED

OH?
I WONDER IF THAT'S TRUE...?
It-
It's true.
!!!
...RIO-SAN.
Ah.
Um...
...Aye.
I'm so sorry for not keeping my promise.
I'm so sorry, Onee-san.

COME HERE.
PLEASE.
YOU ARE A TRULY TRUST-WORTHY FRIEND.
RIO-SAN.
I REALLY LOVE YOU.

TELL ME EVERYTHING.

Uh...
Uh...
But ...
M-My situation is, um...
How-ever ...
C'mon, Rio. Here.
Oh.
Naoya-onii-san.
THIS IS SOMETHING VITAL TO YOUR RESEARCH, RIGHT?
もぐ...
.....
SFX: FIDGET...


...Ah.
Um...
Serushia-onee-san.
WHAT?
YOU CAN ASK ME ANYTHING, RIO-SAN.
Erm...

What happened to
Ruka-onii-san?

...Luca-san... can't come back here yet.

Oh.
Is that how it is?
So when will he be back?

.....
WHY?
Um...
I...

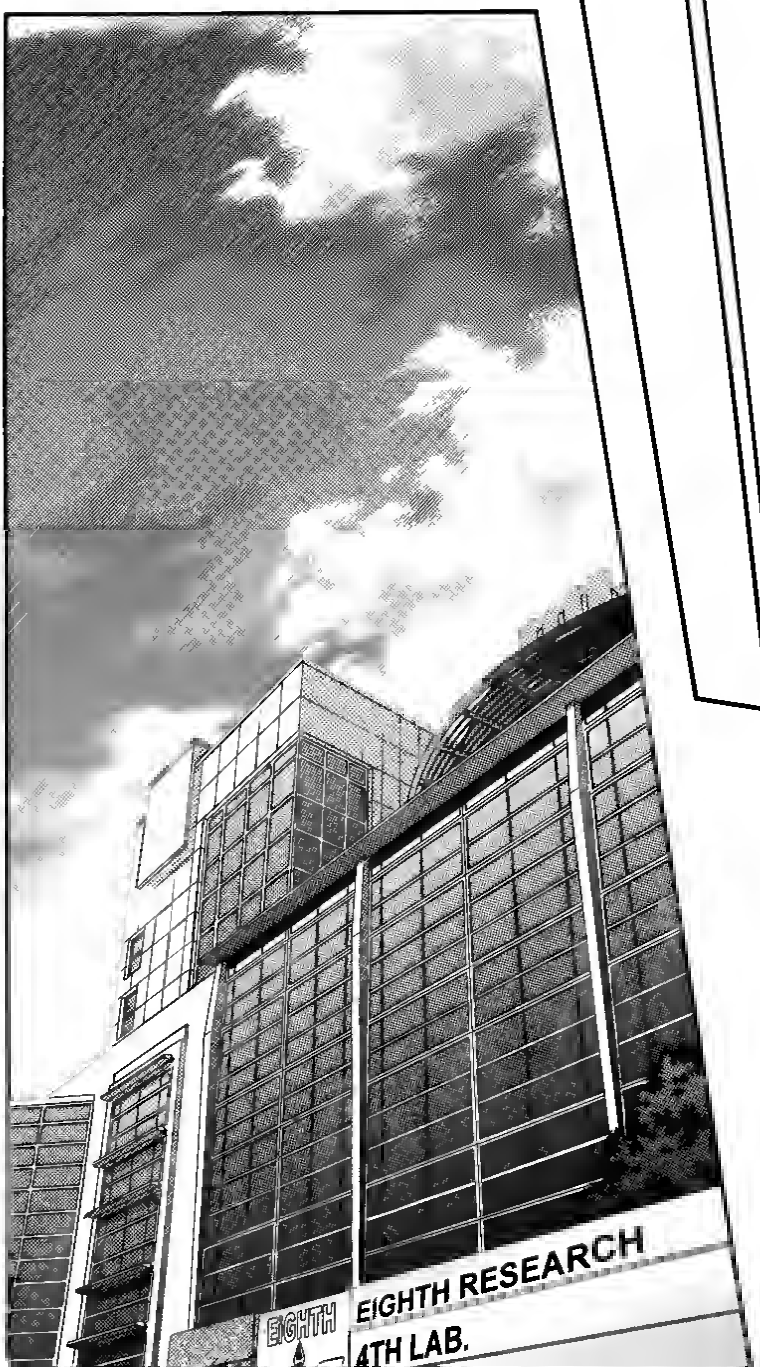
I wanna get back to Naoya-onii-san's room really soon
because
it's really fun!

While I was talking and playing with Naoya-onii-san and Hikaru-onee-san,
Ruka-onii-san would hardly say anything at all.
But even so, I wish he was there.
If Serushia-onee-san is there too, then Ruka-onii-san would talk!
It's so funny.
That's why-

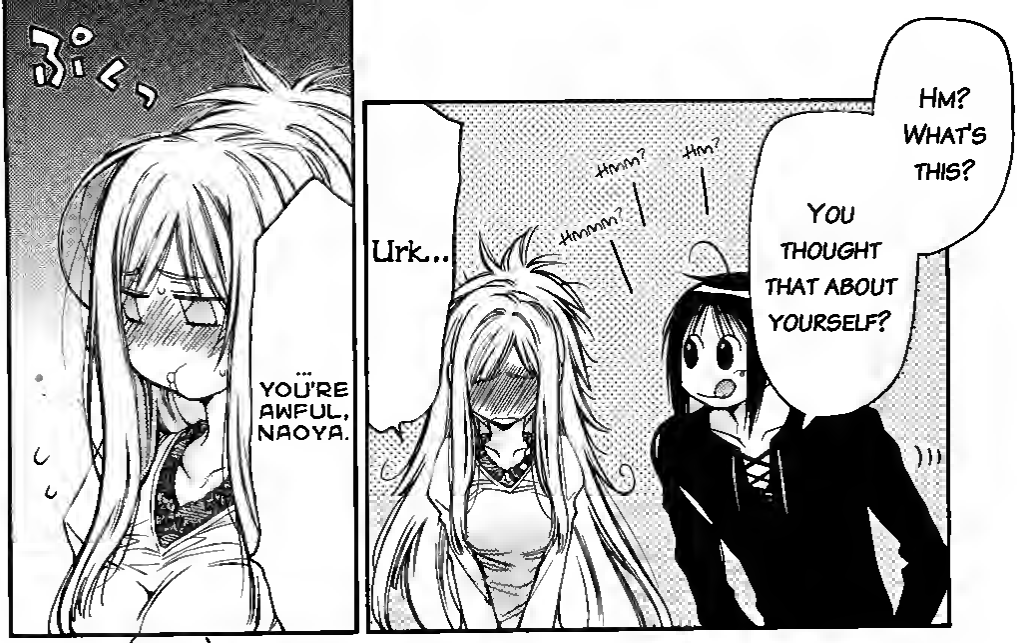
...YOU'RE RIGHT.

I'M SORRY.
WAIT JUST A BIT LONGER, 'KAY?
Aye!
... RIO-SAN.

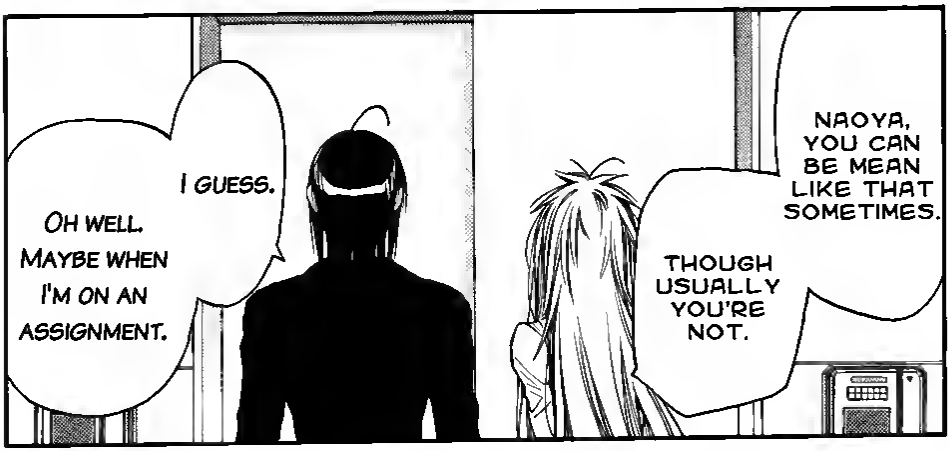
I LOVE YOU.
I WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR YOU...

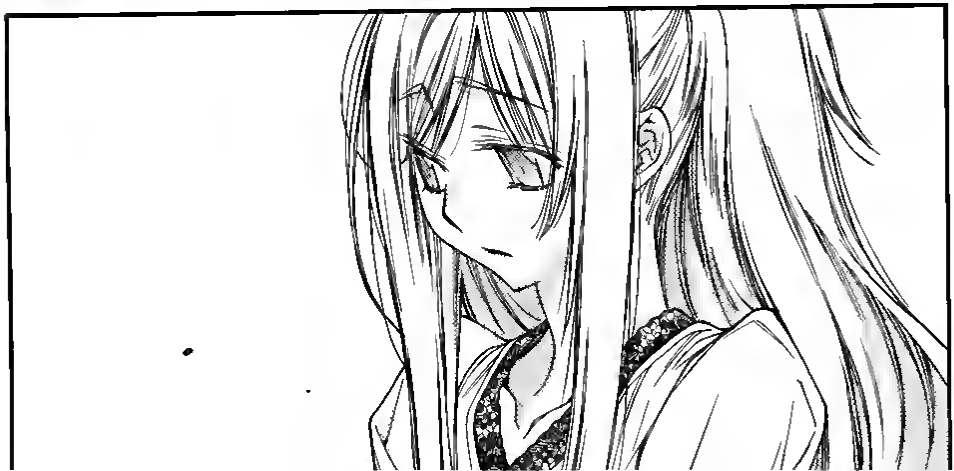

EIGHTH RESEARCH
4TH LAB.
EIGHTH

...SHE LIED, YOU KNOW.
!
...HEY! THAT WAS JUST...
IT'S RIO, AFTER ALL.
.....!
I EXPECT THAT SHE'S SHAKEN OFF A LOT OF DOCTORS LIKE THAT.



SFX: PUFFED (CHEEKS)



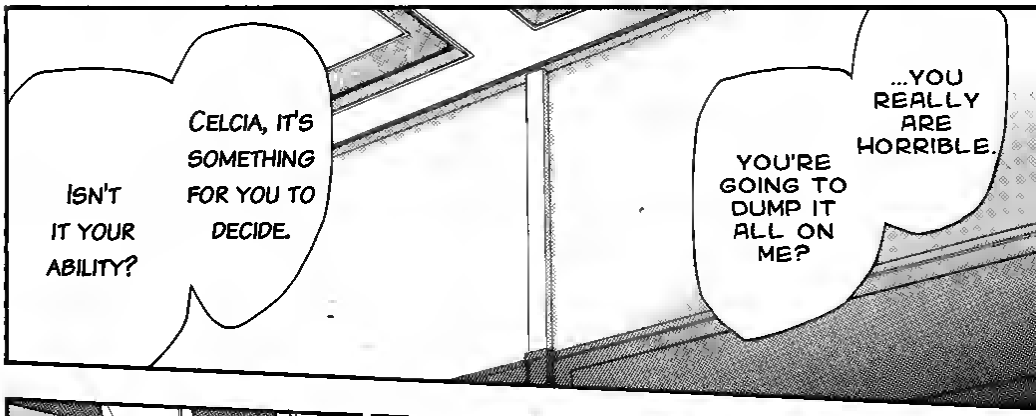


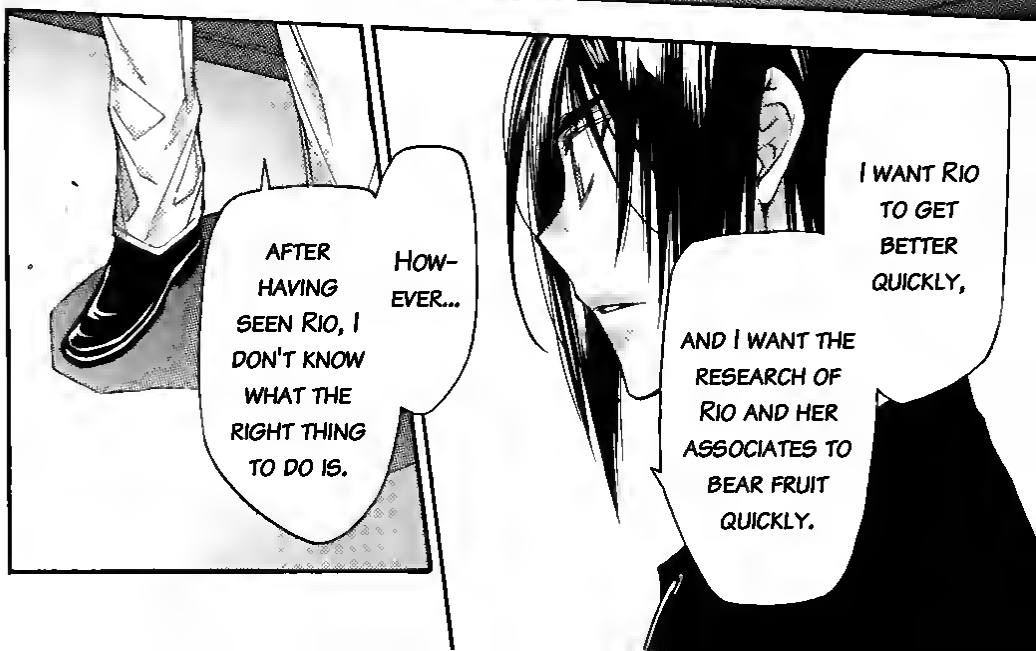
...
NAOYA.
WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT MY POWER?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
DO YOU THINK IT'S OKAY FOR ME TO USE MY ABILITY?
IN WHAT WAY?

HOW I SEE FIT.
...I CAN RUN A BIT FASTER THAN OTHER PEOPLE...
BUT, UHM...
THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE I'VE TRAINED,
SO IT'S A PAIN WHEN OTHER PEOPLE SAY "IT'S NOT FAIR THAT YOU CAN RUN LIKE THAT".
THIS POWER IS DIFFERENT.
I GUESS.
IN THAT CASE, I DON'T KNOW.

There are ways to train to run faster,
but I guess for people with special genes, maybe that's not how it is.
Chief said that way back.
Wanna try asking him?
.....
...but won't you tell me what you'd like for me to do?
Hm?
I told you. I want you to save Rio.

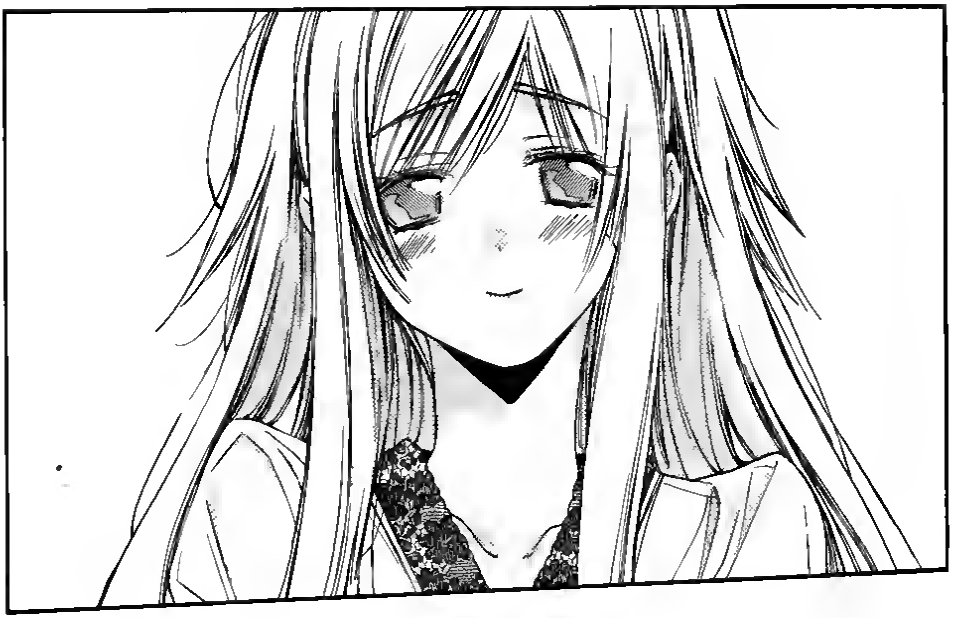
...I WON'T SAY IT.
RIGHT NOW?


CELCIA, IT'S SOMETHING FOR YOU TO DECIDE.
ISN'T IT YOUR ABILITY?
...YOU REALLY ARE HORRIBLE.
YOU'RE GOING TO DUMP IT ALL ON ME?


HOW-EVER...
AFTER HAVING SEEN RIO, I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE RIGHT THING TO DO IS.
I WANT RIO TO GET BETTER QUICKLY,
AND I WANT THE RESEARCH OF RIO AND HER ASSOCIATES TO BEAR FRUIT QUICKLY.

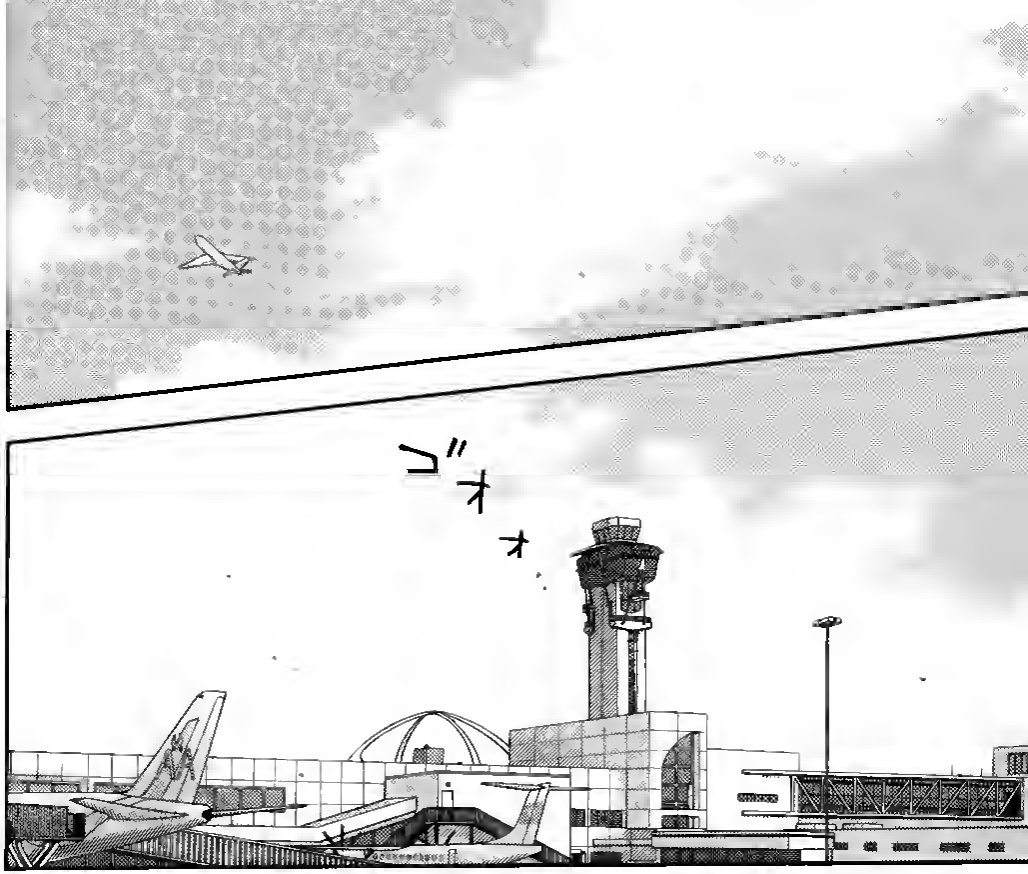
No matter what it is, the choice you yourself make will be the right one.
...and what if my own choice becomes a mistake...?
Fair enough.
Then...
Let's hit Chief with it.

...WHATEVER ELSE HAPPENS, IT'S YOUR POWER.
GO KNOCK THE CHIEF DOWN FOR ME.
...I CAN'T DO THAT.
I'M ON YOUR SIDE.



...THANK YOU, NAOYA.

THAT'S MORE THAN ENOUGH.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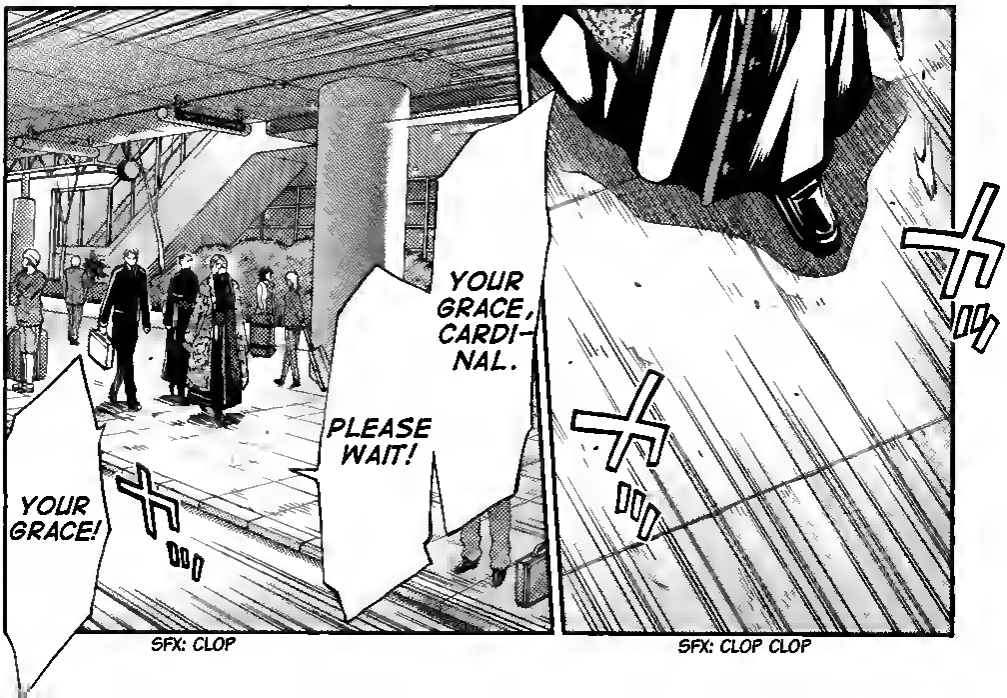
YOUR GRACE!
SFX: CLOP
PLEASE WAIT!
YOUR GRACE, CARDINAL.
SFX: CLOP CLOP

BUT CARDINAL VERNANZO, THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH.
YOU DON'T NEED TO MEET IMMEDIATELY.
CAN'T YOU DO IT QUICKLY?
WE'RE CALLING FOR A CAR RIGHT NOW.
PLEASE WAIT FOR THE TIME BEING.
...THAT WON'T DO.
I BEAR RESPONSIBILITY.
NO GOOD CAN COME OF KEEPING IT FROM A YOUNG GIRL.

AT THE VERY LEAST, I NEED TO CONVEY IT TO HER.
THOUGH I DON'T THINK SHE'LL WANT TO HEAR ANYTHING FROM ANYONE... FROM THE VATICAN.
NO... THE GIRL—
HOW MANY TIMES HAS SHE GONE THROUGH SO MUCH OF AN ORDEAL BECAUSE OF HER GOD-GIVEN POWER?
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO GET PAST IT, TO BECOME HAPPY.